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of the Conference was one of hope and encouragement. All felt that the meeting at The Hague was one of vast importance. A resolution of congratulation and a telegram were sent to the American Commissioners at The Hague. At its closing meeting the Conference adopted the following declaration :

"We urge the immediate establishment of a permanent international Court, which shall be open to all nations for the adjudication of whatever controversies may arise between them, and which they are unable to settle by diplomacy or mediation.

"In the constitution of this Court we urge the application of the same principles which experience has shown to be most conducive to the ends of justice in judicial controversies between individuals.

"In this highest of human tribunals the judges should be selected solely for their recognized ability, learning, and impartiality.

"During the past few years the cause of arbitration has made wonderful progress. Since our last meeting a treaty between Italy and Argentina has been negotiated. This marks a great advance over all former arbitration treaties, in that it provides for the settlement of all disputes that may arise between them, questions of honor not being excepted.

"Within the past year another event of transcendent importance has occurred, in the summoning by the Czar of Russia of a great international Conference to consider how war can be avoided and its burdens reduced. This Conference marks an epoch in the history of the world. It is the first great step toward the federated peace of the world. The Czar is entitled to gratitude and respectful admiration for his noble initiative.

"Earnestly do we hope that the work so auspiciously begun at The Hague will go forward, until at last, and at no distant day, the peace of the world shall rest on the sure foundation of justice, and nations be relieved from the well-nigh intolerable burdens of war.

"We must not forget, however, that the work of that Conference is only preliminary, and that the results of its deliberations must be submitted for ratification to the several governments there represented.

"We, therefore, here earnestly resolve to do what we can to promote popular intelligence and quicken the popular conscience, to the end that when this subject comes before our representatives at Washington there shall be no doubt as to what the people demand in this time of supreme opportunity.

"We believe that the gratifying progress already made and the inspiring hopes which we confidently entertain for the future are because men are learning the moral righteousness of peace, and because God rules the world."

### Notes on The Hague Conference.

Secretary Trueblood reached The Hague on the morning of the 19th of May and remained there four weeks. The spirit of the Conference was by that time fully developed, the work all mapped out and nearing completion. He, along

with other peace workers who were present, was treated with great respect by the members of the Conference and by the officials of the Dutch government. He kept daily in close touch with the proceedings, had many opportunities to see and converse with the delegates, to study the spirit and workings of the Conference, to observe the characteristics of the different delegations, to confer with the European peace leaders, many of whom were present for longer or shorter periods, to talk with newspaper correspondents, etc. During his absence Secretary Trueblood attended and spoke at the annual meetings in London of the Peace Society, of the International Arbitration and Peace Association, and of the Friends' Peace Union. He arrived home on the first day of July, refreshed by the journey and greatly pleased to have had the opportunity of coming into personal and intimate contact with what will always hereafter be regarded as, to date, the most important political assemblage of men ever gathered together. The following notes, together with preceding editorials and the report of the proceedings given further on, contain some of his impressions of the Conference and its surroundings.

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The Dutch name of the city in which the Conference was held, and which seems likely through the permanent bureau of arbitration to be established there to become the capital of the world in some sense, is 's Gravenhage, meaning the Count's Hedge. It was originally a village which grew up about a hunting lodge, subsequently transformed into a palace, built by Count William II. in the forest in the year 1249. As the city has grown it has retained much of the village character. It now has nearly two hundred thousand inhabitants. But as one of the peace visitors said, "It does not seem like a serious city, but a place to rest and play in." It has many wide streets, squares, large rectangular open spaces, with groups and long rows of splendid trees. The city seems to have cut its way into the forest with great respect for the latter. On the north and east the wood (the Dutch call it "bosch") has been preserved in much of its original state, many very old trees still standing. Through these woods walks and drives and avenues have been made, along some of which now run street car lines. There is nothing more picturesque and beautiful in its way in Europe. In the center of many of the streets run canals, so well known everywhere in Holland. "We have in Holland nothing but water and windmills," said one lady. The Hague is one of the cleanest cities in the world. Its hotels are quaint old buildings, erected originally as private places of barons, etc. The newer parts of the city, though thoroughly Dutch in style, are

very neat and attractive. The royal palace, the royal library, the museums, the government buildings, the churches, are all interesting. About the Lange Voorhout, the principal square, are located the chief hotels and many of the foreign embassies. About this square were quartered many of the delegations, and here, to the public, was centered the chief interest of the Conference, rather than in the "House-in-the-Woods," in which the sessions were held in secret.

#### The "House-in-the-Woods."

"The most beautiful historical monument" at the disposal of the Queen, is the way in which in his opening address Mr. de Beaufort described this building. It is situated about one mile east of the center of The Hague, in the edge of the forest. The front of it opens into the forest. In the rear, skirting which runs a public highway, the grounds have been fashioned into most beautiful gardens, with winding walks, drives, lakes, flowers, shrubs and long avenues of trees. The building is old and quaint, but extremely attractive. It was built by Amelia van Solms, widow of Prince Frederick Henry, in memory of her husband, who was called "the blameless prince." The entrance hall is adorned with fine paintings, among which is one of Mr. Motley, the historian of Holland. The Japanese and Chinese rooms are the most beautiful in the "House." The Orange Hall, in which the Conference was held, is gorgeous from floor to dome with paintings representing scenes in the life of the Prince. The Queen does not reside there now, even in summer, but at Amsterdam. She sometimes visits the "House" for a day. "When she gets married she will doubtless come here to live," said the lady attendant with a smile, with a look of hope in her eye that that interesting event might not be too long delayed.

#### The Meetings.

The full sittings of the Conference were held in the Orange Hall. The sections and sub-committees met in other rooms of the "House." The committees frequently met for convenience in some hall in the city or in the hotels. The delegates usually drove to the "House-in-the-Woods" in carriages, though when they met elsewhere the formality of carriages was often dispensed with. Guards stood at the gateways of both entrances to the "House," and even the delegates had to show cards and give a password before they could enter. A dining room and restaurants were fitted up in the building for the members. The General Secretary had his Bureau installed in one suite of the rooms. Special telegraph wires had been put up for the occasion, connecting the "House" with the outside world. Visitors were admitted only at

times when no sittings were in progress. The Dutch government was very generous in providing all "respectable" people with cards of admission, and one visitor at least had two opportunities of inspecting the "beautiful historical monument."

#### The Queen's Receptions.

Queen Wilhelmina, who does not reside at The Hague in the summer, came with her mother to the Palace on the 24th of May and gave a reception to the delegates. She received the President of the Conference at a quarter to five o'clock, when Mr. de Staal presented to her, as a present from the Czar, the order of Saint Catherine, set in brilliants. The reception to the delegates and others began at five o'clock and lasted about three-quarters of an hour. The delegates were presented in alphabetical order to both the Queen and the Queen Mother, who received separately. The Queen was dressed in white and wore a triple row of pearls as a necklace. She had a gracious word for each in his own language. In receiving the Baroness von Suttner, who was invited, she showed that she had studied the subject of peace and was warmly interested in it. Many of the dignitaries of the government and members of the States-General were present. The reception was considered the most brilliant which this generation has seen in Holland. The Queen gave a second reception to the delegates at her palace at Amsterdam on the evening of July 5.

#### Peace Memorials.

Numerous peace memorials from all quarters of the world were sent in by letter, by wire and by personal deputations. The president and leading members of the deputations were almost overwhelmed with these in the early days of the Conference. They were much impressed by them and replied to very many of them. One of the most significant was that from multitudes of women's meetings in all parts of the world. Madame Selenka, of Munich, one of the most remarkable of the personages whom the Peace Crusade movement brought out, presented in person to Mr. de Staal an album containing the original text of the resolutions passed in these meetings, representing in the aggregate several millions of women. Queen Wilhelmina conveyed to Madame Selenka her deep sympathy with the work of women for peace. The album was accompanied with the following address:

"We, the women of eighteen nations, assembled in one single impulse of hope and sympathy, come to offer our respectful salutations to the Conference, and to assure it of our faith and confidence in the happy results of its labors, that the hope of the peoples in the direction in which you are called upon to deliberate upon their highest interests may not be deceived, and that the

crushing evils of which the recognized excess is the *raison d'être* of your meeting may not be declared by you to be incurable. Do not let the overburdened peoples lose the propitious chance of the historic moment which by your zeal may spare them long years of painful progression, and cruel halts, towards an aim which in the natural development of their civilization they must reach. In view of the united efforts of the governments determined to apply to the solution of this problem of how to guarantee to the nations security and peace, as much energy and intellectual force as they expend at present in arming one against the other, this solution, already ripened by history, will not be slow to present itself. That is our conviction and our hope. Already the nations no longer hate each other, since we women, who are half of the human race, hold out our hands across the spaces encircling the globe with a powerful current of love and unity. We who feel that we are sisters appeal to you to realize the ideal of the fraternity of nations in the hope that our voice, the voice of mothers and sisters, daughters and wives, which pleads in the name of home and child, may make itself heeded in your deliberations, and that henceforward conflicts between nations may no longer be decided on battlefields watered with the blood of our sons and brothers; cause the tyrannical sovereignty of force to vanish into the past with the dying century, and hail the coming century with the crowning of the principle of right."

#### Other Memorials.

Dr. W. Evans Darby, Secretary of the Peace Society, London, also presented in person to Mr. de Staal an address adopted at the annual meeting of the Society on the 23d of May. It was received with great favor. Mr. de Staal also did Dr. Darby the honor to distribute among the delegates one hundred copies of his book on "International Tribunals," a book containing all important arbitration schemes hitherto drawn and a list of all the important arbitrations during this century. The book proved eminently useful and drew out many warm expressions of appreciation. The London Committee of the Peace Crusade also handed to the delegates, through Mr. Francis William Fox, a draft of a scheme for arbitration and mediation. An address was presented to Mr. de Staal by Madame Waszkiewicz of The Hague, organizer of the Dutch Peace Crusade, signed by more than two hundred thousand of her fellow countrymen. A similar address was presented by Senator H. La Fontaine, of Brussels, signed by more than one hundred thousand Belgians. Besides these addresses presented in person, many came by letter from different peace associations and other organizations in all parts of Europe and America. How much influence these memorials had it is impossible to tell, but there is no doubt that they did much to make the delegates feel that they had in hand the most momentous interests of our time, interests felt deeply by millions of the best and truest men and women

of all countries. There is little doubt that the hopeful and earnest spirit which early took possession of all the leading delegates was due in considerable degree to these appeals.

#### English Friends' Deputation.

A deputation of the English Friends, sent by the Yearly Meeting then in session, went to The Hague on May 27, and presented an address to the president of the Conference. A printed copy was also sent to each delegate. The deputation, which consisted of John Bellows, chairman, Joseph G. Alexander, Josephine Alexander, Edmund Wright Brooks, Francis William Fox and Ellen Robinson, was received with great courtesy by Mr. de Staal, who expressed particular satisfaction in seeing them because "he knew they were sincere." The address was as follows:

"We desire to express our profound sympathy with the work of the Conference initiated by the Emperor of Russia, having for its object the extension among the nations of the blessings of durable peace. For more than two centuries the Society of Friends has felt bound to oppose the whole system and practice of war, and to plead against the spirit that leads to war as utterly contrary to the Spirit of Christ, and to the rule, at once simple and practical, that we should do unto others as we would that they should do unto us. We therefore greatly desire that your deliberations may be guided by that wisdom which is the gift of God, so that practical and lasting results may attend your labors. That these labors may not be in vain, but be abundantly crowned with success, and be followed by the blessing pronounced upon the peacemakers, is our earnest prayer."

#### The Peace Workers.

The peace workers at The Hague during the Conference were not numerous, but they were among the leading and most influential ones. The French Arbitration Society was represented by Dr. Charles Richet, of the University of Paris; the International League of Peace and Liberty by its President, Emile Arnaud; the English Peace Society by Dr. Darby; the International Arbitration and Peace Association by Felix Moscheles, chairman of its committee; the International Peace Bureau by Frederik Bajer of Copenhagen; the Belgian Societies by Senator La Fontaine; the German societies by Mr. A. H. Fried, of Berlin; the Russian friends of peace by Mr. Novicow, the distinguished sociologist of Odessa; the Austrian society by the Baron and Baroness Von Suttner and Count Gourowsky; the women workers by Ellen Robinson, of Liverpool, Madame Selenka and Madame Waszkiewicz; the American societies by B. F. Trueblood. They were all received with great kindness and consideration, not only by the delegates, but by the officials of the Dutch government with whom they came in

contact. They were invited to many of the receptions and fêtes, and given opportunity to visit the "House-in-the-Woods," in which the Conference sittings were held. The Baroness Von Suttner, the most widely known of the European peace propagandists, received marked attention and exercised much influence. She was admitted to the opening sitting of the Conference, had interviews with many of the leading delegates, gave lunches at her hotel to small companies of delegates and friends, and in general was almost recognized as a part of the Conference. Some of the leading delegates expressed frankly to these peace workers the debt due to them for the great peace progress which has been made.

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**Mr. Bloch.** Outside of the delegates, the man who attracted most attention and had most influence was Mr. John de Bloch. He brought with him great trunks full of sets of his monumental work in six volumes on "The Future War." These he took about with him in his carriage when making calls and gave them to leading delegates and others. He gave a course of four lectures on the evolution of war and of peace, illustrated with lantern projections, in one of the halls of The Hague. These were attended by the peace workers present and by a considerable number of the delegates. He served free suppers in the middle and at the end of the lectures to all comers. He is a man of great wealth, of high social position, has "seen war," and is consecrating himself wholly to delivering his message of warning to the nations of Europe. His point of view is that armaments have become so large and costly and a war between the powers would be so disastrous in loss of life and so ruinous financially that nothing could justify the nations in entering into a conflict of arms. War has actually in his view become a utopia. From this point of view he proceeds to argue for the establishment of a permanent tribunal of arbitration which will make disarmament possible. He is wholly possessed of his subject and can talk of nothing else. It is an interesting and significant fact that Russia should have produced at the same time three such peace advocates as the Czar, Tolstoy and Mr. Bloch.

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**Mr. Stead.** Mr. Stead, like Mr. Bloch, is not a member of any peace society. Mr. Bloch would be if he lived in any country but Russia, where as yet there have been no such organizations. Mr. Stead studiously shuns the regular organizations. He is his own society, president, secretary, treasurer and membership. But he has done an immense amount of work in his own way to make the Hague Conference a success. His previous labors in the Crusade in Europe and in Rus-

sia are well known. He was at The Hague and the busiest man there. No delegate could escape him. Even the reserved and averse Germans had to listen to his curtain lectures. He found out more of what was going on than probably any other journalist there. He published it in the *Manchester Guardian* in England and in the *Dagblad*, the leading daily of The Hague, of which latter he contrived to make himself the Conference editor. He gave a lecture in the city on the Conference to a numerous audience, and at the end conducted a lively "question drawer." Mr. Stead is a man of great enthusiasm about whatever he has in hand, and of great brilliancy as well. His power of endurance of hard and continuous work is incomprehensible. The villa in which he lived during the Conference was near the seaside resort, Scheveningen, and bore the appropriate title, "Pax Intransigentibus." His family were with him.

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**The English Church.** A very interesting series of sermons were preached in the English Church in The Hague during the Conference. They were specially arranged by the rector to bear upon the work of the Conference. Distinguished preachers came over from England each Sabbath day, and the sermons were all excellent, some of them of a very high order. The opening sermon by the Dean of Ely, May 21, Whitsunday, on "The prophecy of Joel," was peculiarly appropriate to the occasion. The other preachers were Dean Freemantle, Rev. Mr. Grundy, the Bishop of Hereford, the Dean of Bristol, and one or two others. A number of the delegates from England and America attended these services.

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**Turkey and Armenia.** It was impossible to keep the question of Turkish injustice out of the Conference. There were representatives of the Armenians and of the Young Turkey party present with memorials. Mr. Ahmed Riza, editor at Paris of a journal devoted to the interests of the Young Turkey party, put into the hands of every delegate an address making representations as to the actual condition of things throughout the Ottoman empire. The purpose for which the Conference met made it impossible for anything direct to be done about these matters. But the presence of these persons discredited very much the Turkish delegation. Mr. Ahmed Riza and one of the Armenians delivered one evening addresses in The Hague. The next day one of the Turkish delegation sent Mr. Riza a challenge to fight a duel. This was of course declined. Among the delegates there was much sympathy for Mr. Riza and the Armenians; and the presence of such a country as Turkey in a peace conference was felt to be a great

anomaly. It is not unfair to say that Turkey had little real influence in the Conference.

#### Honor to Grotius.

The Americans at the Hague Conference spent their Fourth of July in honoring the memory of Hugo Grotius. A large meeting, attended by many delegates, diplomats, high officials and ladies, was held in the New Church at Delft. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Van Karnebeek, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, and chief of the Dutch delegation to the Peace Conference. A scholarly address was made by Hon. Andrew D. White, in which he paid a high tribute to Grotius, the father of international law. "He seemed to hear a voice from that tomb encouraging them to go on with the strengthening of peace; and especially to give to the world at least the beginning of an effective, practical scheme of arbitration." At the end of his address Dr. White, on behalf of his commission, laid upon the tomb a wreath of silver oak and laurel leaves, bearing the inscription: "To the memory of Hugo Grotius, on the occasion of the Peace Conference at The Hague, in reverence and gratitude, from the United States." The wreath, three feet in diameter, was in a large beech case, ornamented with silver, and bearing the inscription: "To the Government of The Netherlands from the United States, on the occasion of the Conference, 1899." Following the inscription were the names of the American delegates. The address of acceptance was made by W. H. de Beaufort, Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs, and honorary president of the Conference. He emphasized the close connection of Holland with the history and traditions of the United States, and hoped that the wreath would be an everlasting emblem of the friendship of Holland and America. The closing address was made by Mr. Low, who declared that "We owe to Holland many of the things which we hold as most precious in our heritage."

#### The Papal Nuncio.

The departure of the Papal Nuncio from The Hague on the eve of the opening of the Conference created at first some talk, but afterwards nothing was heard of it. The Pope seems to have withdrawn him to prevent unpleasantness, after it was decided that the Papacy, out of regard principally to the wishes of the Italian government, should not be represented in the Conference. The decision that the Pope should not participate by a delegate was made purely on political and not on religious grounds. There was no discrimination against delegates on account of religion. A few of the prominent men in the Conference were Catholic statesmen, but this was no bar to their serving in any capacity. Some of them occupied foremost places on committees.

## General Notes.

#### Philippine Events.

Peace in the Philippines is not near. The reduction of the American forces through fighting, disease and heat has been so great that they have been threatened in places with disaster, and are unable to make further headway without the aid of fresh troops. Some of the regiments have less than three hundred effective men. The rainy season has exposed the troops to great hardships from the floods of water. The volunteers are mostly coming home, some of them having already arrived. General Otis has re-enlisted something like a thousand of them, and formed of them two skeleton regiments. The president has made a call for ten new regiments of volunteers, and these are being enlisted as fast as possible. General Otis has cabled for two thousand five hundred horses, in order to organize cavalry squads. Meanwhile the Filipinos seem no nearer subdued than they were five months ago. They are active and aggressive, fresh thousands coming up to take the place of those slain. The government at Washington is at last convinced, in spite of delusive Commission reports, that it has serious business on hand. Aguinaldo, on the anniversary of the declaration of Philippine independence, has denounced in the strongest terms the course pursued by this country as wholly unjust and contrary to what was to have been expected from America. He has declared that the Filipinos will fight until their independence is recognized. If recent reports are true, our government has decided to enter upon what in anybody else we should despise as low and dishonorable bribery. The Sultan of Sulu is to be brought into friendliness by a gift of ten thousand dollars, and an annual allowance thereafter of some twelve thousand dollars, to support himself and his harem! One wonders what the next step in the nation's shame will be! But one must keep his mouth shut and his pen still about all this, as well as about the fundamental injustice at the bottom of the whole sad Philippine business, or be outlawed as a traitor to his country by supporters of the policy of crushing and conquest! Under the circumstances, the time for silent acquiescence has not come; the time for vigorous and persistent opposition has only just begun.

#### Moore's History of Arbitration.

We are indebted to Hon. Chas. F. Sprague, member of Congress from Massachusetts, for a copy of the recent work on International Arbitration, by Professor John Bassett Moore, of Columbia University. The work is in six large volumes, the sixth volume consisting of sixty-one maps illustrating the cases of arbitration in which territorial and geographical considerations have been involved. The work was

undertaken by Professor Moore under authority of a joint resolution of Congress passed on April 2, 1894. Professor Moore's studies in international law, of which he is professor at Columbia University, and his former connection with the State Department as assistant secretary, have peculiarly fitted him for the great and important service which he has accomplished in giving this work to the world. It will easily be the standard work on the subject for many years to come, being the first of its kind ever prepared, and being so conscientiously, thoroughly and exhaustively done. It is not only a history of the arbitrations of the United States, with appendices containing the treaties relating to such arbitrations, but it contains historical and legal notes on other international arbitrations ancient and modern. It contains also an appendix on the domestic commissions of the United States for the adjustment of international claims. The work is published by the government, and can only be had from a member of Congress or from the State Department.

**The Sources  
of Militarism.**

Mr. Frederic Harrison, whose words we find in the *Conservator*, writes thus of the sources of militarism:

"The government of a nation is not likely to be morally superior to the people who have evolved that government as their organ of collective action. The attitude and policy of nations towards each other are thus sure to be on the same moral level as the common attitude and policy of the citizens one towards another within each nation; no higher. A nation that is not fit for entirely peaceful and harmonious relations within itself, as regards the tilling of its fields, the working of its mines and mills and factories, the manning of its ships, and the distribution of its multifarious produce in its own borders—a nation whose citizens cannot live and work together for mutual support as brethren, or members of one body, but are struggling, scrambling, snatching, each rushing after some separate and private end—is not yet fit for peaceful and harmonious relations with other nations of the earth. Militarism is the international relationship that accurately corresponds to competitive industrialism and commercialism. 'The devils of national vainglory, of imperial expansion, and of the passion of robbing and crowing over neighbors,' are simply the devil of individual vainglory, the devil of business and domestic ambition and rivalry, the devil of the passion of exploiting the public, and especially the poorer and less resisting classes of them, the devil of delight in one's superior ability and riches and dignity—these very devils, these very lusts, these very defects of character, these very ignoble traits, acting on a large scale, through the nations. Peace among the nations means also at the same time peace within the nations. It means the reorganization of all society and of all the common activities of everyday life on the basis of brotherhood and common interest. International relations cannot be permanently of a higher character than the relations prevail-

ing simultaneously between each man and his neighbor. The problem is: how can the devil of separate interests, the power that drives man apart from man, be banished from the human heart? Hope lies in the progressive realization that, despite all transient, contrary seemings, we have all really one life, that we are members one of another; that the truer order of the universe is such that the interests of all men and of all nations are identical; that in universal, mutual service alone are to be found true progress and true prosperity for all. In love alone for men and nations are true wisdom, incorruptible and uncorrupting wealth, and the highest, gladdest life."

**Imperial  
Democracy.**

"Imperial Democracy" is the title of a pamphlet by John J. Valentine, president of Wells, Fargo & Co., of San Francisco, Cal.

It consists of two papers, one entitled "Dutch Colonizers in Malaysia," the other "Annexation of the Philippines," and furnishes an important contribution to the discussion of the momentous question now before the country. In the second of these Mr. Valentine says:

"What shall it profit Americans if they gain the whole world and lose their reverence for and loyalty to the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and all the most cherished principles of our fair fabric of liberty, broadbased on the immutable principles of the truth as it is in Jesus? Confronted by the war-spirit madness which has prevailed in the United States for a year past, I would ask every professing Christian of whatsoever church, sect, or denomination, if he believes that, were the Galilean himself present, looking on at the slaughter of helpless people, He would approve it. Nay, more, I ask those ministers of the gospel who have been so swift to proclaim the benefits and blessings of Christian civilization to follow the triumphs of our arms, whether, in the face of the wild outburst of savagery which has characterized our latest victories, they believe that the evangelizing process which has been adopted is in keeping with the spirit of Christ. . . . If the spirit of Christ prevail not in our civilization, it is of no more worth than the imperial despotism built up and maintained by Roman legions, and, like it, liable to be overthrown and trampled in the dust by Goths and Vandals in another form."

Mr. Valentine believes that "our coming national campaign will be a strenuous one, and that the issue will be between American Democracy—broadbased, as it is, on the immutable principles of the truth as it is in Jesus—and Plutocratic Imperialism, to the exclusion of all minor questions—standards of value, currency reform, tariff revision, and everything else apart from a contest for and against the lust of ambition, power, and pelf." He does not "believe that the Democratic heart of America will tolerate the sordid, vulgar, and ignoble spirit of avarice and vainglory which underlie the present situation." We hope so. It ought to be so. And every man in the nation ought at once to have a solemn sitting



with his conscience, if he has not already done so, to determine in the light of "the truth as it is in Jesus" how he will act.

### Brevities.

. . . A Portuguese League of Peace has just been founded at Lisbon. Most cordial and fraternal salutations to the new organization.

. . . We greatly regret to learn of the death of Aaron M. Powell of the Purity Alliance, New York, editor of the *Philanthropist*. He was an experienced and loyal friend of peace.

. . . The August number of the *New England Magazine*, 5 Park Square, Boston, will contain an illustrated article on the Hague Conference, by Benjamin F. Trueblood.

. . . The Venezuela arbitration tribunal has commenced its work at Paris. The time so far has been taken up by Sir Richard Webster in presenting the British side of the case in a long historical review.

. . . One of the most interesting meetings at the great Woman's Congress in London was that on arbitration, arranged for by a committee of which Lady Aberdeen was chairman. A number of the leading peace women from different countries gave ten minute addresses.

. . . The national Christian Endeavor Convention recently held at Detroit was one of the most successful which the United Society has ever held. One great meeting was devoted to arbitration and peace, the society now having made this a fixed and prominent part of its program.

. . . The Universal Peace Union, in addition to its regular annual convention at Mystic, Ct., on the 23d to the 26th of August, is conducting a summer school in the Peace Grove and Temple. It is expecting a large number of peace workers to give instruction and lectures. For information address Rev. Amanda Deyo, Mystic, Ct.

. . . The sixth season of summer lectures at Greenacre, Eliot, Me., was opened on July 1. As is her rule, Miss Farmer devoted the opening days to the subject of peace. Among the speakers on peace were Dr. Lewis G. Janes, of Cambridge, Rev. Samuel Richard Fuller, of Boston, and Rev. Benjamin Fay Mills.

### Proceedings of the International Peace Conference.

The International Conference on Peace and Disarmament called by the Czar of Russia opened at The Hague on Thursday, May 18, at 2.15 o'clock P. M., in the Orange Hall in the Queen's "House in the Woods." When the Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. de Beaufort, to whose lot it fell on behalf of the Dutch government to open the Conference, rapped on the table for order, "a great silence" fell upon the little group of diplomats gathered in the hall. There were less than one hundred of them, and there were present besides them only a small group of representatives of the press, the Baroness

von Suttner, whose name is the best known of the peace propagandists of Europe, and an English Friend, Francis William Fox, a member of the British Peace Crusade Committee. All these "outsiders" sat in the gallery of the dome forty feet above the heads of the delegates, and their presence was scarcely known to the latter.

The hall, which is an octagonal one, and covered, sides and dome, with paintings by famous Dutch painters of the seventeenth century, was just large enough to accommodate the gathering. It had been specially fitted up for the occasion. The hard floor had been carpeted, and the seats for the delegates put upon a raised temporary floor, sloping in to the center from two directions. The president's chair was on the south side, windows looking out from behind it on the beautiful gardens in the rear of the palace. The seats of the delegations had been chosen alphabetically. The delegates sat facing one another from the two sides, except that seats for the Russian delegation had been prepared to the right and left of the president's chair, at a horseshoe-shaped table. The table for the secretaries was in front of the chair. On the desk in front of each delegate was a portfolio on which was inscribed in French "Conférence de la Haye, 1899." The delegates were all in plain morning dress, with the exception of three or four military and naval men, one of these being Captain Mahan, who was in naval uniform. There was a conspicuous absence throughout the Conference of anything of a military character, except that now and then a military delegate might be seen striding away somewhere in uniform. It was a little curious to see at a Peace Conference a soldier, not a policeman, standing guard at the gateway, and permitting no one to enter without his delegate's or visitor's card. But these soldiers belonged to the ordinary royal guard, and might have been seen at any other time just the same. When the delegates were in their places Mr. de Beaufort opened the Conference with the following brief address of welcome:

"In the name of my August Sovereign, I have the honor to bid you welcome, and to express the feelings of profound respect and lively gratitude which I entertain towards the Emperor of All the Russias, who, in appointing The Hague as the meeting place of the Peace Conference, paid a high honor to our country. The Emperor of Russia, in taking that noble initiative, which has evoked the plaudits of the whole civilized world, desired to realize the wish expressed by one of his most illustrious predecessors, the Emperor Alexander I., to see all the sovereigns and all the nations of Europe come to an agreement among themselves to live together like brothers, aiding one another in their mutual necessities. Inspired by these noble traditions of his august ancestor, his Majesty proposed to all the governments whose representatives are here to-day the assembling of a Conference whose task should be to seek means for putting an end to incessant armaments and preventing the calamities which threaten the entire world.

"The day of the meeting of this Conference will be, without doubt, a day of mark in the history of the century which is about to close. It coincides with the fête which all the subjects of the Czar celebrate as a national holiday, and in associating myself from the bottom of